

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION EA-06

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R 270745Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4204

INFO USIA WASHDC

CIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USSAG NKP THAILAND

USDEL JEC PARIS

S E C R E T SAIGON 3596

LIMDIS PSYOP MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, VS

SUBJECT: SAIGON NORTH VIET-NAM COMMITTEE REPORT, FEBRUARY 1975

1. VOICE OF FREEDOM (VOF) BROADCASTS: VOF MARKED 45TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF VIET-NAM WORKERS PARTY WITH COMMENTARIES AND EDITORIALS CHASTIZING HANOI LEADERS FOR BELLIGERENCE AND OBSTINANCE. BROADCASTS ACCUSED COMMUNIST LEADERS IN NORTH OF EXPLOITING DRV WORKERS AND PEASANTS FOR BENEFIT OF NEW COMMUNIST "RULING CLASS." VOF ALSO NOTED INCREASED ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN SOUTH, OUTLINED RVN PROSPECTS FOR FOREIGN REVENUE FROM EXPORT OF OIL AND RICE, AND COMPARED SOUTHERN ECONOMIC SITUATION WITH NORTH'S GROWING DEPENDENCE ON, AND CONSEQUENT SUBSERVIENT TO COMMUNIST ALLIES. ON MILITARY FRONT, VOF CITED RECENTLY CAPTURED COMMUNIST DOCUMENTS AS PROOF OF HANOI INTENT TO ESCALATE WAR AND INCREASE HARDSHIPS AND SUFFERING OF VIETNAMESE IN NORTH AND SOUTH. COMMENTARIES DECLARED RVN PEOPLE'S DETERMINATION TO REPEL COMMUNIST AGGRESSION. ON OCCASION OF

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LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS (TET), VOF REMINDED AUDIENCE THAT

PAST TWO DECADES OF WAR HAVE RESULTED FROM DRV POLICIES. NEWS FEATURES ALSO COMPARED TET CELEBRATIONS IN SOUTH WITH CONTINUED POVERTY AND SHORTAGES IN NORTH. IN TET SPIRIT, VOF CALLED ON HANOI LEADERS TO WORK TOWARD NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND END TO WAR. NORTH VIETNAMESE MEDIA COVERAGE OF UPCOMING DRV NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS PROMPTED VOF COMPARISONS BETWEEN WORKING DEMOCRACY IN SOUTH AND ABSENCE OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS IN NORTH.

2. CONTENT ANALYSIS OF VOF EDITORIAL MATERIAL AS FOLLOWS: LIFE IN THE SOUTH, 21 PERCENT; LIFE IN THE NORTH, 15 PERCENT; COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS AND AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS, 15 PERCENT; RVN DIPLOMATIC SUCCESSES AND INTERNATIONAL (INCLUDING U.S.) SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE, 10 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, 9 PERCENT; GVN MILITARY PROWESS AND DETERIORATING COMMUNIST MORALE AND FIGHTING ABILITY, 9 PERCENT; SOUTH VIETNAMESE ASPIRATIONS FOR PEACE AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, 7 PERCENT; SOUTH VIETNAMESE SOLIDARITY AND DETERMINATION TO RESIST COMMUNIST, 3 PERCENT; AND OTHER (NONE MORE THAN 3 PERCENT), 11 PERCENT.

3. COMMUNIST SEIZURE OF PHUOC LONG PROVINCE AND REFUSAL TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO RVN REQUESTS FOR RENEWED NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED TO RECEIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE IN ALL GVN MEDIA. MEDIA CALLED FOR POPULAR "RESOLVE TO DEFEND NATION AND FORCE COMMUNISTS TO RESPECT PARIS AGREEMENT." THIEU TET ADDRESS TO NATION WITH "NEW YEAR, NEW DUTY" THEME ALSO GIVEN SUBSTANTIAL PLAY. THIEU'S CALL FOR MAXIMUM SUPPORT TB THE FRONT, MAXIMUM REAR AREA STABILITY AND INCREASED NATIONAL PRODUCTION TREATED IN NUMEROUS COMMENTARIES, EDITORIALS AND SLOGANS. MID-MONTH ANNOUNCEMENT OF "CONTRABAND ERADICATION CAMPAIGN" WAS LINKED TO THIEU SPEECH AND COMPRISED MAJOR PORTION OF GVN MEDIA COVERAGE OF DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. SLOGANS AND COMMENTARIES URGED SOUTH VIETNAMESE TO PURCHASE LOCAL GOODS AS MEANS OF SAVING FOREIGN EXCHANGE, DEMONSTRATING PATRIOTISM AND CONTRIBUTING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. STABILITY AND SECURITY IN REAR AREA WAS FOCAL THEME OF HEAVY COVERAGE OF ARREST OF COMMUNIST JOURNALISTS AND DIS-BANDING OF HOA HAO CIVIL GUARDS. MEDIA WARNED AGAINST ALLOWING "LIBERTY AND DEMOCRACY TO BECOME WEAPONS FOR THE ENEMY". END OF PERIOD AND ARRIVAL OF CODEL SAW INCREASED COVERAGE OF U.S. ADMINISTRATION EFFORT TO SAVE SUPPLEMENTARY

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MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR RVN.

4. CONTENT ANALYSIS OF GVN PROPAGANDA (BOTH VTVN AND PRINTED OUTPUT) YIELDED FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN: COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS, TERRORISM AND REOPENING OF GENERAL OFFENSIVE, 21 PERCENT; DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, 18 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, 14 PERCENT; NATIONAL UNITY AND POPULAR RESOLVE TO DEFEAT COMMUNISTS, 10 PERCENT; U.S. ASSISTANCE AND

CODEL VISIT, 7 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE, 5 PERCENT; ARREST OF COMMUNIST JOURNALISTS, 5 PERCENT; SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS, 4 PERCENT; DIPLOMATIC SUCCESSES, 4 PERCENT; DISBANDMENT OF HOA HAO CIVIL GUARD, 4 PERCENT; AND OTHER (NONE MORE THAN 3 PERCENT), 8 PERCENT.

5. VOA PROGRAMMING; BROADCAST FEEDS FROM POST DURING PERIOD INCLUDED AS MAJOR REPORTAGE: REPORT BY RVN PETROLEUM AND MINERAL RESOURCES AGENCY AND MOBIL OIL COMPANY ON ESTIMATED RVN OIL PRODUCTION CAPACITY; COVERAGE OF LETTER FROM 41 RVN SENATORS TO U.S. CONGRESS URGING ADDITIONAL AID TO RVN; RVN FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS CONFERENCE INTRODUCING WHITE PAPER DEMONSTRATING VIETNAMESE SOVEREIGNTY OVER PARACEL AND SPRATLY ISLAND GROUPS; PRESIDENT THIEU'S TET ADDRESS TO THE NATION; TET CELEBRATIONS IN SAIGON; RVN FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON 2ND SESSION OF LOW CONFERENCE IN GENEVA; AND REPORT ON RVN INTERNATIONAL STATUS AND PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY OF NATIONS.

6. COVERT RADIO ACTIVITY IS REPORTED SEPARATELY.
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